

CLAIMS

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method of handling network activation between a
5 computer and a carrier, the method comprising:

receiving a command to initiate network activation
procedures;

determining a network activation status of the computer;

sending a request to a device having network activation
10 information;

receiving the network activation information from the
device; and

configuring the computer with the network activation
information in order to establish network activation
15 with the transport mechanism.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the received command
includes a launch code to initiate a particular network
activation procedure.
- 20 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the device having network
activation information is a single in-line memory module
(SIMM) card configured to be compatible with the carrier.

4. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of determining a network activation status comprises determining if the computer has a current single in-line memory module (SIMM) card that is compatible with the carrier.

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5. The method of Claim 4, wherein the step of determining a network activation status further comprises:

determining if the computer was previously network activated with a previous single in-line memory module (SIMM) card; and

determining if the previous SIMM card is the current SIMM card.

6. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of determining a network activation status comprises:

receiving an activation security key from a user of the computer; and

determining if the activation security key is valid for the carrier.

7. The method of Claim 1, wherein the device having the network activation information is a server of the carrier.

8. The method of Claim 7, wherein the steps of sending and receiving are carried out in a protocol specific to the carrier.

5 9. The method of Claim 7, wherein the network activation information that is received includes an access number that allows the computer to access network services of the carrier.

10 10. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of configuring the computer comprises storing an access number that allows the computer to access network services of the carrier.

15 11. A plug-in device configured to be operable in a generic activation framework, the plug-in device comprising:
an application program interface (API) tailored to a particular carrier, wherein the API is configured to receive a network activation command from a generic
20 driver device in a computer.

12. The plug-in device of Claim 11, wherein the plug-in device is an application configured to be initiated in a personal digital assistant.

13. The plug-in device of Claim 11, further comprising a user interface configured to query a user for an activation security key to access services of a carrier.

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14. The plug-in device of Claim 11, wherein upon receiving a particular network activation command from the generic driver device, the application program interface (API) is configured to cause the plug-in device to determine a network activation status of the computer.

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15. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions for handling a network activation between a computer and a carrier, the one or more sequences of one or more instructions including instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

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receiving a command to launch network activation procedures;

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determining a network activation status of the computer;

sending a request to a device having network activation information;

receiving the network activation information from the device; and

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configuring the computer with the network activation information in order to establish network activation with the carrier.

5 16. The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the received command includes a launch code to initiate a predefined network activation routine.

10 17. The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the device having network activation information is a single in-line memory module (SIMM) card configured to be compatible with the carrier.

15 18. The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the step of determining a network activation status further causes the processor to carry out the step of determining if the computer has a current single in-line memory module (SIMM) card that is compatible with the carrier.

20 19. The computer-readable medium of Claim 18, wherein the step of determining a network activation status furthermore causes the processor to carry out the steps of:

determining if the computer was previously network
activated with a previous single in-line memory
module (SIMM) card; and

determining if the previous SIMM card is the current SIMM
card.

20. The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the
step of determining a network activation status further
causes the processor to carry out the steps of:

receiving an activation security key from a user of the
computer; and

determining if the activation security key is valid for
the carrier.

21. The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the
device having the network activation information is a
server of the carrier.

22. The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the
steps of sending and receiving are carried out in a
protocol specific to the carrier.

23. The computer-readable medium of Claim 21, wherein the
network activation information that is received includes

an access number that allows the computer to access network services of the carrier.

- 5 24. The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the step of configuring the computer further causes the processor to carry out the step of storing an access number that allows the computer to access network services of the carrier.